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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 7,037,060
Issue Date: May 2, 2006
Application No. 10/602,534
Filed: June 23, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 2863.2.1.3

: DECISION ON PETITION
: UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3)

This is a decision on the corrected petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3), filed November 1, 2007, to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 35 U.S.C. §120 for the benefit of priority to prior-filed nonprovisional Application No. 09/558,307, filed April 25, 2000, by way of a certificate of correction filed concurrently herewith.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

A petition for acceptance of a claim for late priority under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) is only applicable to those applications filed on or after November 29, 2000. Further, the petition is appropriate only after the expiration of the period specified in 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii). In addition, the petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) must be accompanied by:

- (1) the reference required by 35 U.S.C. § 120 and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(i) of the prior-filed application, unless previously submitted;
- (2) the surcharge set forth in § 1.17(t); and
- (3) a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. The Commissioner may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional.

Application no. 10/602,534 which was filed after November 29, 2000, matured into Patent No. 7,037,060 on May 2, 2006. The claim for the benefit of priority to a prior-filed nonprovisional application was submitted after expiration of the period specified in 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii). Therefore, this is a proper petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3).

The petition complies with the requirements for a grantable petition under 37 CFR

1.78(a)(3) in that (1) a reference to the above-noted, prior-filed nonprovisional application has been included in a certificate of correction, as provided by 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(iii); (2) the surcharge fee required by 37 CFR 1.17(t) has been submitted; and (3) the petition contains a proper statement of unintentional delay. Accordingly, having found that the instant petition for acceptance of an unintentionally delayed claim for the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to the above-noted, prior-filed nonprovisional applications satisfies the conditions of 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3), the petition is granted.

This application is being forwarded to the Certificates of Corrections branch for an issuance of a certificate of correction noting the priority claim to prior filed application 09/558,307 filed April 25, 2000, which matured into Patent No. 6,390,747 on May 21, 2002.

Any questions concerning this matter may be directed to Senior Petitions Attorney Patricia Faison-Ball at (571) 272-3212. Any questions regarding the Certificate of Correction should be directed to the Certificates of Correction Branch at (703) 305-8309.



Anthony Knight
Supervisor
Office of Petitions



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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING or 371(c) DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY.DOCKET.NO	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
10/602,534	06/23/2003	3677	750	2863.2.1.3	20	3

CONFIRMATION NO. 1743

CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT

28049

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SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84111



OC000000028847942

Date Mailed: 03/14/2008

Receipt is acknowledged of this non-provisional patent application. The application will be taken up for examination in due course. Applicant will be notified as to the results of the examination. Any correspondence concerning the application must include the following identification information: the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections

Applicant(s)

Alfred Commins, Friday Harbor, WA;

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 21552

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a CON of 10/146,531 05/15/2002 PAT 6,585,469
which is a CON of 09/558,307 04/25/2000 PAT 6,390,747
which claims benefit of 60/156,042 09/24/1999

Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 09/09/2003

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US 10/602,534**

Projected Publication Date: Not Applicable

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No
**** SMALL ENTITY ****

Title

SHRINKAGE COMPENSATOR FOR BUILDING TIEDOWNS

Preliminary Class

411

PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

LICENSE FOR FOREIGN FILING UNDER

Title 35, United States Code, Section 184

Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15

GRANTED

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NOT GRANTED

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTIONPage 1 of 1

PATENT NO. : 7,037,060

APPLICATION NO.: 10/602,534

ISSUE DATE : May 2, 2006

INVENTOR(S) : Alfred D. Commins

It is certified that an error appears or errors appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

At column 1, line 6, the recitation of priority should read --This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/146,531 filed on May 15, 2002, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/558,307 filed on April 25, 2000.--.

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER (Please do not use customer number below):

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Attention Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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